

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-15 SY-10 IO-13 RSR-01 /136 W

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R 201247Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8485

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USUN NEW YORK 839

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRETORIA 2936

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, WA, SF

SUBJ: NAMIBIA: MILITARY AND POLICE MOVE TO CONTAIN UNREST,
BUT VIOLENCE FLARES AGAIN IN KATATURA

REF: PRETORIA 2913

1. KATATURA, WINDHOEK'S AFRICAN TOWNSHIP, SEALED OFF AND STREETS PATROLLED BY ARMY AND POLICE UNITS AUGUST 19. SHOW OF FORCE WAS RESPONSE TO PREVIOUS VIOLENCE AND TO CALL BY SWAPO YOUTH LEAGUE FOR MASS MEETING IN KATATURA THAT DAY. MEETING HAD BEEN SET FOR 2 P.M. FROM EARLY MORNING ON, POLICE CARS WITH LOUD-SPEAKERS DROVE THROUGH STREETS URGING AFRICANS TO STAY AT HOME AND AVOID ANY GATHERING.

2. BECAUSE OF ACTIONS TAKEN BY ARMY AND POLICE, MASS MEETING NEVER TOOK PLACE. HOWEVER, WINDHOEK SOURCE TELLS US THAT TWO

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SMALLER MEETINGS WERE HELD, IN DEFIANCE OF SPECIAL PROCLAMATION

ISSUED BY WINDHOEK'S CHIEF MAGISTRATE PROHIBITING ANY FURTHER MEETINGS IN KATATURA AFTER 12 NOON AUGUST 19. POLICE BROKE UP THE TWO ILLEGAL MEETINGS. DURING ENSUING VIOLENCE, PETROL BOMBS WERE THROWN AT POLICE BUILDING AND BUSES IN KATATURA WERE STONED. FIVE AFRICANS WERE HOSPITALIZED.

3. PAMPHLETS WERE CIRCULATED DURING WEEKEND, CALLING ON KATATURA RESIDENTS TO STAY HOME FROM WORK TODAY, AUGUST 20, "IN THE INTEREST OF FREEDOM." HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCE, NOTHING CAME OF STRIKE AS WORKERS GENERALLY REPORTED FOR WORK THIS MORNING.

4. NUMBER OF AFRICANS ARRESTED SINCE BEGINNING OF UNREST IN MAY NOW APPROACHING 400. ABOUT 300 WERE ARRESTED FOLLOWING AUGUST 16 DISTURBANCE IN KATATURA (REFTEL). SECURITY POLICE ARE REPORTED STILL TO BE LOOKING FOR SEVEN OF TWELVE YOUTH LEAGUE LEADERS WHO SPOKE KATATURA MEETING AUGUST 12 (PRETORIA 2710). FIVE HAVE BEEN ARRESTED. WINDHOEK ADVERTISER SAYS ONE SPEAKER, DAVID SHIKOMBA, DECLARED: "DO NOT WAIT UNTIL TOMORROW. LET BLOOD FLOW. ONLY AFTER BLOOD HAS FLOWED WILL FREEDOM COME." OTHER SPEAKERS REPORTEDLY URGED AN END TO THE "BOER GOVERNMENT" IN SWA, EXHORTED LISTENERS TO "FIGHT FOR FREEDOM" AND WARNED SAG-SUPPORTING AFRICANS THAT ANYONE ON THE SIDE OF THE "BOERS" WOULD BE DONE AWAY WITH. THESE AND OTHER INFLAMMATORY STATEMENTS WERE DULY RECORDED BY POLICE AND NO DOUBT CONTRIBUTED TO SAG'S DECISION WHICH RESULTED IN SUBSEQUENT ACTIONS TAKEN BY SAG SECURITY FORCES IN OWAMBO AND KATATURA.

5. IN RADIO BROADCAST NIGHT OF AUGUST 17, PRIME MINISTER VORSTER SAID HE "SICK AND TIRED" OF DISTURBANCES IN SWA WHICH HE SAID WERE WORK OF "AGITATORS." TIME HAD COME, HE SAID, "FOR ALL PEACE-LOVING PEOPLE TO STAND TOGETHER."

6. VORSTER FLIES TO WINDHOEK AUGUST 21 TO OPEN SWA CONGRESS OF NATIONAL PARTY. IT CAN BE EXPECTED THAT ARMY AND POLICE WILL USE WHATEVER FORCE NECESSARY TO KEEP LID ON KATATURA AND PREVENT INCIDENTS FROM OCCURRING WHILE VORSTER IN WINDHOEK.

SMITH

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